

MASSACHUSETTS FARMER
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TERMS: \$3.00 per annum in advance. \$5.00 if not paid in advance. Single copies 10 cents. Foreign postage extra. The paper is sent free to all subscribers who send their names to the Editor, and who are engaged in agriculture, horticulture, or the allied arts. The circulation is large, and the paper is one of the most valuable sources of information to the farmer.

AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY, by Joseph N. Sturtevant, Esq.
The volume contains 628 pages and is beautifully illustrated by a life-size heliotype frontispiece of Prof. Agassiz, and the first prize Apple and Jersey cow of the Messrs. Sturtevant of South Framingham, and Edward Burnett, Esq. of Southboro'. Farmers in this State can procure copies of their representatives or senators in the Legislature, of the secretaries of their agricultural societies and farmers' clubs that complied with the law in making their returns to the Secretary of the Board. There are thus about four hundred points of distribution throughout the Commonwealth.

FARMING IN MAINE.
In Agriculture in the State of Maine. By Editor of Massachusetts Ploughman.
This is an amply broad question of the two or more sides, and while we attempt to offer a few ideas upon the one side, we hope some doubts on the other side will take up the question on the other side. It will thus be discussed somewhat from two standpoints, and we have read "between the two extremes truth lies"—that is truth ever does lie.

POULTRY INTEREST.
A CURE FOR PICKING HENS.
Editor Massachusetts Ploughman:
I have received your issue of the 7th inst. to give your readers of the Ploughman the benefit of my experience with Poultry, in relation to a not uncommon difficulty which a proportionately large brood was kept about a year ago. I noticed some of the hens in my brood picking the heads of others, with action I subsequently attributed to a craving appetite for something juicy or oily contained in the feather stump or pin feather. This appetite increased with every day, until some of them appeared to be quite voracious in their picking operations, while the disease extended through the entire brood. I finally hit upon a cure which was this: I gathered together a quantity of earthenware and potted it up with bones in about equal quantities. I also gave them bran plaster. They soon abandoned their extravagance in picking each other's heads, and contented themselves with pulverized earthenware and bone, which I kept a constant supply of. I have since used this cure in all my broods, and have never again been troubled with their natural love of destruction.

MASSACHUSETTS AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE.
The eleventh annual report of the State Agricultural College was presented in the Senate, 12th inst., and the most important passages from the statement of President Clark are presented below:
To His Excellency the Governor and the Honorable Council.
The Trustees of the Massachusetts Agricultural College respectfully present the following report, for the year 1873:
The institution has been blessed with its usual prosperity, and under the judicious management of its able and devoted officers, the progress of the college has been most successful. The confidence of the numerous friends of the college in the wisdom of its plan of organization and its capacity for eminent usefulness, was never greater than at the present time.

WESTERN MASSACHUSETTS.
MEETING OF THE HAMPSHIRE COUNTY FARMERS' INSTITUTE.
Special Correspondence of the Ploughman.
A first, most interesting was the 24th meeting of this organization, the most interesting of the series thus far. A full hundred of the most intelligent farmers of Hampshire met in the Parish Hall at North Amherst to discuss the question of "Commercial and other Fertilizers." The Easthampton Farmers' Club were present as guests of the Institute, and took part in the discussion.

Editorial.
REPORT OF MASS. STATE BOARD OF AGRICULTURE.
The twenty-first annual Report of the Secretary of the Massachusetts State Board of Agriculture just presented to the Legislature is out with its usual promptness. A glance at its contents will give an idea of the great variety and the high scientific and practical character of its contents.

Correspondence.
ABORTION IN COWS.
Editor Massachusetts Ploughman:
Will you allow me to inquire through your columns, if any farmer has experienced the trouble of abortion in cows? I am aware that the matter has been for a long time a subject of investigation, and have read all the articles upon it which have appeared in your issue. I am desirous of gaining any real information as to the cause. The disease seems to be increasing in the vicinity of this city, to such an extent that it keeps on, it will grow to be a serious question. The observations of thinking and experienced men upon such matters are always of value, and when brought together may lead to some understanding of the matter.

TO MAKE CIDER VINEGAR.
Editor Massachusetts Ploughman:
In the Ploughman of Feb. 28th, Mr. Geo. L. Whitehouse inquires how to convert cider into vinegar. The best and cheapest method is the one given by you in your issue, when there is good cider vinegar to start with. But when there is no stock of vinegar on hand, then with a few drops of vinegar, the cider will ferment, and the vinegar will be made. The cider should be put in a clean barrel, and the vinegar should be added in the proportion of one quart to every ten gallons of cider.

CHURNING MILK.
Editor Massachusetts Ploughman:
Can you direct me to any one that can give me any information regarding churning milk? I have a small dairy, and I am desirous of improving my method of churning. I have a churn, and I churn every day, but I am not satisfied with the result. I have heard of the "dutch" method, but I am not sure of it. I am desirous of knowing the best method to use.

SEA WEED.
Editor Massachusetts Ploughman:
Having had much experience in the use of seaweed of the several varieties, I will endeavor to answer your inquiries with regard to the value of seaweed as a fertilizer. It is a valuable fertilizer, and it is especially valuable for the cultivation of the sea plants. It is also valuable for the cultivation of the land plants. It is a valuable fertilizer, and it is especially valuable for the cultivation of the sea plants.

MAP YOUR FARM.
Every farmer should have a complete map of his farm, with the boundaries of the several lots, and the location of the several buildings. It is a valuable map, and it is especially valuable for the cultivation of the sea plants. It is also valuable for the cultivation of the land plants. It is a valuable map, and it is especially valuable for the cultivation of the sea plants.

WHAT IS MEANT BY A HORSE POWER?
The power of prime movers is measured by horse power. Watt found that the strongest London draft horses were capable of doing work equivalent to raising 33,000 pounds one foot high per minute, and he took this as the unit of power for the steam engine. It is a valuable map, and it is especially valuable for the cultivation of the sea plants.

WHAT ALLED THE PIGS?
Editor Massachusetts Ploughman:
In December last I addressed you through the Ploughman, on the loss of a valuable sow and seven pigs, hoping to gain some information regarding the matter. I have since received your reply, and I am desirous of knowing the best method to use. I have a small dairy, and I am desirous of improving my method of churning. I have a churn, and I churn every day, but I am not satisfied with the result.

EXPERIMENTS WITH SUPERPHOSPHATE.
Editor Massachusetts Ploughman:
Your subscriber from Abington making inquiries regarding the value of superphosphate, leads me to my experience with superphosphate the past season, not with the Cumberland, for I am not acquainted with that, but with another article which I had read in your issue. I am desirous of knowing the best method to use. I have a small dairy, and I am desirous of improving my method of churning.

GRAPE CULTURE.
The lecture on "Grape Culture in Massachusetts," by Dr. James Fisher of Fitchburg, is a clear and practical discussion of the whole subject by one of the most experienced and closest observers in the country. It is admirable, and worthy of a most careful study by all who are interested in the cultivation of the grape. The full discussion of the subject is given in the Ploughman, and it is especially valuable for the cultivation of the sea plants.

THE HORSE.
The Power of a Horse. The human hand has often been taken to illustrate the power of a horse. Watt found that the strongest London draft horses were capable of doing work equivalent to raising 33,000 pounds one foot high per minute, and he took this as the unit of power for the steam engine. It is a valuable map, and it is especially valuable for the cultivation of the sea plants.

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